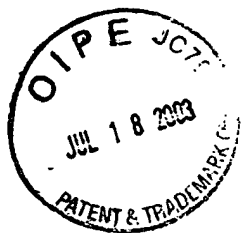


EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO.: EV 302233054 US

PATENT APPLICATION

Docket No: 15913.23



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Bing Zhou et al.

Serial No.: 10/066,289

Filed: January 31, 2002

Confirmation No.: 2043

For: Supported Noble Metal Nanometer Catalyst
Particles Containing Controlled (111) Crystal
Face Exposure

Examiner: Cam N. Nguyen

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GROUP 1700

#5/WB
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) Art Unit
) 1754

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is in response to the Restriction Requirement dated July 9, 2003,
regarding the above-identified Patent Application.

The Restriction Requirement requires restriction to one of the following inventions:

Group I: Claims 1-21, drawn to a noble metal catalyst

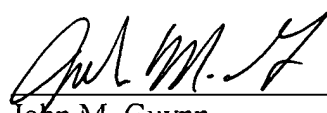
Group II: Claim 22, drawn to a method of reforming petroleum naphtha using the noble
metal catalyst.

In response, Applicants elect Group I, comprising claims 1-21, without traverse. Accordingly, claims 1-21 are presented to the Examiner for examination on the merits, while claim 22 is withdrawn at this time as being directed to a non-elected invention. Nevertheless, upon the allowance of claims 1-21, Applicants respectfully request rejoinder and allowance of claim 22 since, if the noble catalyst is itself patentable, any use of the inventive noble metal catalyst would *a fortiori* be patentable as well.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments concerning this communication, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initiate a telephonic interview with the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 18th day of July 2003.

Respectfully submitted,



John M. Guynn
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 36, 153



022913

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE



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In re application of

Bing Zhou et al.

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I hereby certify that following documents are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below in an envelope addressed to: Director of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of deposit: July 18, 2003.

- Response to Restriction Requirement
- Transmittal Letter (in duplicate)
- Postcard

Respectfully submitted,


John M. Guynn

Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 36,153



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